

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 5256

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC CSCE
SUBJECT: EC REPRESENTATION AT BELGRADE CSCE MEETING

1. MISSION HAS LEARNED FROM EC COMMISSION AND UK PERMREP OFFICIALS THAT THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS REACHED AGREEMENT DURING THEIR MAY 21-22 LEEDS CASTLE RETREAT ON A FORMULA FOR EC REPRESENTATION AT THE BELGRADE CSCE MEETINGS. THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE EC COUNCIL PRESIDENCY STATE (THE UK THROUGH JUNE 30 AND BELGIUM THEREAFTER) WILL BE CLEARLY DESIGNATED AS SUCH BY A NAMEPLATE READING "UNITED KINGDOM (OR BELGIUM)-PRESIDENT IN OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES" DURING ALL BASKET 2 DISCUSSIONS. AN EC COMMISSION EXTERNAL RELATIONS OFFICIAL (FOUERE) POINTED OUT TO MISSION OFFICER THAT THE EC COULD DRAW ON PRECEDENT FOR THIS MOVE, SINCE IT WAS AGREED DURING THE GENEVA ROUND OF CSCE NEGOTIATIONS, IN THE WAKE OF CYPRIOT/TURKISH DIS-AGREEMENTS, THAT EACH STATE HAD THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE WHAT IT SHOULD BE CALLED DURING THE PROCEEDINGS. COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES, PROBABLY LED BY EXTERNAL RELATIONS OFFICIAL LOUIS KAWAN, CONFIDENTIAL

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WILL TAKE PART AS OPENLY DECLARED MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENCY DELEGATION FOR ALL BASKET 2 DEBATE - THE SAME ARRANGEMENT AS OBTAINED DURING THE GENEVA AND HELSINKI ROUNDS. FOR ALL BASKET 1 AND 3 DISCUSSIONS, THE COUNCIL PRESIDENCY STATE WILL BE DESIGNATED ON A NATIONAL BASIS (I.E. NAMEPLATES WILL BE SWITCHED TO READ SIMPLY "UNITED KINGDOM" OR "BELGIUM").

2. ACCORDING TO A UK PERMREP OFFICIAL (GORE-BOOTH), THE NINE WILL LIKELY INFORM NATO ALLIES OF THIS DECISION ON A FORMAL BASIS IN DUE COURSE, THOUGH THE UK PERMREP HAS NO INDICATION OF WHEN THIS MIGHT OCCUR. HE STRESSED THAT THE DECISION IS VIEWED BY THE EC AS NON-NEGOTIABLE AND WILL BE PRESENTED AS SUCH TO THE YUGOSLAVS JUST BEFORE THE BELGRADE MEETING CONVENES. GORE-BOOTH INDICATED TO MISSION OFFICER THAT THE UK PUSHED HARD AT LEEDS CASTLE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF DUAL DESIGNATION FOR THE COUNCIL PRESIDENCY STATE DURING DISCUSSION OF BASKETS 1 AND 3, AS WELL, BUT THAT THE FRENCH AND THE GERMANS WERE OPPOSED (THE FRENCH ON THE GROUNDS THAT BASKETS 1 AND 3 DO NOT INVOLVE ISSUES OF COMMUNITY COMPETENCE, AND THE GERMANS BECAUSE OF GENERAL NATIONAL SENSITIVITIES OVER EAST-WEST QUESTIONS INVOLVED). GORE-BOOTH SAID HMG WAS PARTICULARLY DISAPPOINTED AT LACK OF GERMAN SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE. HINTON

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